

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 02 AUG 2005
INTERNATIONAL REPORT
WIPO PCT

Applicant's or agent's file reference P18714-OZI	FOR FURTHER ACTION <small>See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)</small>	
International application No. PCT/EP2003/011609	International filing date (day/month/year) 20.10.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 20.10.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC H04L29/06		
Applicant TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET LM ERICSSON (publ)		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the opinion
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 18.05.2005	Date of completion of this report 01.08.2005
Name and mailing address of the International preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer Veen, G Telephone No. +31 70 340-3811



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/EP2003/011609

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, Pages

1-18 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-10 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/3-3/3 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:
- the drawings, sheets:

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5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).
(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-10
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-10
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-10
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP2003/011609

The following document is referred to in this communication; the numbering will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

D1: WO 02/11395 A (NOKIA NETWORKS OY ;FACCIN STEFANO (US)) 7
February 2002 (2002-02-07)

1 Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1.1 Claim 1

The closest prior art, represented by D1, discloses a method and apparatus for securing signaling connections between network elements residing in different domains (PLMNs) of a telecommunication network.

It does not disclose, however, a gateway node which transfers messages from one domain to the other and back, converting secured messages to unsecured messages and vice-versa, as defined in the characterizing part of independent claim 1. (in D1, instead, a first network entity obtains the security parameters of a second network entity, which are then used to secure the information to be transferred to the second entity, cf. D1, page 20, lines 17-31).

The problem solved by these features can be defined as "how to provide secure message exchange between different network domains, without requiring each network element to secure its own messages according to their respective destinations, and without generating large implementation costs if a large number of different network nodes is involved?".

As neither the problem nor the solution described above is disclosed or suggested in any of the available prior art documents, the network defined in claim 1 is not obvious, and claim 1 satisfies the requirements of Articles 33(2) and 33(3) PCT.

1.2 Claim 6

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Independent claim 6 defines a gateway node having the same characterizing features as the one used in the network of claim 1. Therefore, claim 6 also satisfies the requirements of Articles 33(2) and 33(3) PCT.

- 1.3 The remaining claims, 2-5 and 7-10, are all dependent and therefore also satisfy the requirements of Articles 33(2) and 33(3) PCT.
- 2 It should be noted that each of claims 3, 5 and 7-10 refers to itself.